

The Rotary Club of TAMWORTH FIRST LIGHT bulletin bulletin bulletin bulletin



www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au

30 September 2009 – Meeting #979



Brett's Banter

Quote of the week

**“If women ran the world we
wouldn't have wars,
just intense negotiations
every 28 days”**

Robin Williams

Great to see Max 'Cheshire Cat' Cathcart back. Boy does he have a glow about him. Marriage to Robyn has been a rewarding experience.

'Guess who's coming to dinner' looks like being a great success once again and we are requiring more guests as there appears to be plenty of members willing to be hosts. Speak to Peter Ryan.

Phil Penman needs about another five (5) golfers for the Hunter Valley trip on 23 to 25 October. I have to remember to wave goodbye to the golfers this time.

Chris Sheppard is obviously proud of the efforts with the chartering of the Sunrise Club as he should. All those members who continued to support the process and the Sunrise executive should be equally proud of this accomplishment. Unfortunately I will be away for a mini-break for a friend's 50th that weekend and I have asked Chris to represent our Club.

The inaugural Pedal the Peel was a great success with nearly a hundred participants. Thanks again to Jeanette and Phil Penman accompanying me on the 40 k route. Perfect day, perfect surroundings and great people...you can't go wrong. The committee did an extraordinary job and I couldn't see one thing that could be improved with the organisation. Well done to all who turned up for the day to participate or assist.

I found the talk from Michael Herden and Geoffrey Pitkin this morning to be interesting in relation to the challenges of the members and the great result from the Quit for Life education. Michael and Geoff did a great job considering it is their first time public speaking and one of their own challenges they need to face.

I will be in Sydney next week and David Hinwood will chair the meeting.

Have a great week and be kind to your pets, you never know you may come back as one.
Brett

AND FOR THE NEWS

10 October – Guess Who is Coming for Dinner –
Please speak to Peter Ryan if you are keen to host and / or attend. The numbers are coming in – will be a great night – very successful last year.

Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise - charter dinner to be on Saturday, 24 October 2009 at 6:30 pm - Ballroom & West Diggers see invitation attached.....

1,000TH MEETING will be CELEBRATED ON Saturday, 6 March
Our charter will be celebrated at our Changeover on Saturday, 19 June 2010

Golf weekend – 43 booked -5 spots left – please see Phil Penman as a matter of urgency.....

Club Archives – Phil Heffernan reported that everything is now out at the container at Paul Stevenson's place. However if members are holding on to information and would like it re-housed, please speak to Phil Heffernan.

It is with sadness I advise that Elaine Dyball, mother of PDG Ian Dyball, and an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Taree, passed away on Tuesday 15th September. Elaine was also a life member of Probus in Taree. The funeral was last Monday, 21 September at Taree

Things Actually Said in American Courts

Attorney – The youngest son, the twenty year old, how old is he?

Witness – He's twenty – much like your IQ.

Attorney – She had three children, right?

Witness – Yes

Attorney – How many were boys?

Witness – None

Attorney – Were there any girls?

Witness – Your Honour, I think I need a different attorney?

CALENDAR 2009/2010 Events

10 October **Guess Who is Coming for Dinner**

23 – 25 October Nelsons Bay – Golfing Weekend

24 October **Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise Charter Dinner**

15 November Family Tennis Afternoon (Self Catering) 1.00 – 5.00 pm (Moore Creek)

19 November Inter-Club Great Debate – Tamworth Tennis Club, Treloar Park

28 November Christmas Party – Rugby Club – **diarise now**

26 January **Combined Rotary Clubs involved all day Bicentennial Park**

22 – 28 February Australia-wide Campaign for PolioPlus

06 March **1,000th First Light Meeting CELEBRATIONS**

12 – 14 March District 9650 Conference, Port Macquarie – Book accommodation early

19 May **Career’s Expo - TRECC**

19 June **Tamworth First Light Changeover & Charter CELEBRATIONS**

29 June **Tamworth Club’s Changeover and Anniversary - 20 Years**

30 June **District Changeover**

SEPTEMBER - NEW GENERATIONS MONTH

ROTARY YOUTH DRIVER AWARENESS INFORMATION FOR SCHOOLS, STUDENTS AND PARENTS - WHAT IS RYDA?

The RYDA program is a road safety education program aimed at reducing death and injury amongst young people on Australian roads. The program targets 16 to 17 year olds who are at the stage of their lives where they start to drive or ride in a vehicle driven by their peers.

RYDA is a community-based initiative of Rotary Clubs, partnering those organisations in our community that have a responsibility for, or interest in, road safety for our youth. It has been developed in consultation with the RTA and the NSW Government Departments of Education and Training, Health and Police and is designed to compliment and supplement the school curriculum and government road safety messages.

The Program

RYDA focuses on attitude and awareness with the aim of helping young adults become better people on the road. The program highlights the privilege and responsibilities of owning and driving a motor vehicle and also illustrates their rights and responsibilities as passengers and pedestrians. It is a one-day event held at a non-school site which co-ordinates the efforts of local road safety experts, driving instructors, the Police, recovering survivors or road crashes, drug & alcohol educators and financial services personnel.

Talk to your school about their involvement in the RYDA program or contact Ken Patterson, District Committee chair, on 6552 5057 (h) or 0429 150 536 (mob.)

ROTARY AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND STUDENT EXCHANGE (RANZSE)

This family-to-family matched exchange is most popular with students from Year 9 at high school. Each student selected spends a school term (term II or term III) living in the home of, and attending school with their exchange student. The exchanges are direct exchanges with the family of the Australian student, who is going to New Zealand, hosting the son or daughter of the host family in New Zealand.

Contact Carolyn Wilson, District Committee chair, on 02 6551 2729 (h) or 0412 121 605 (mob.) to obtain further information.

VOCATIONAL

Ross Lobsey has been in the dry cleaning business for some 45.5 years taking over the family business, with a very short break as a boat builder and as a barman in Spain just a few years ago. He also worked in the dry cleaning and dyeing department of Harrods for a short time as well. Some interesting facts about dry cleaning

- The word evolves from centuries ago when powder would be rubbed on satins and silks to cover stains – worked quite well
- Dry cleaning fluid wets not saturates – water saturates
- Saturation cleaning is usually soap powder in today's washing machines
- Often asked to remove holes from garments – still improving in this area.

WHY I AM A ROTARIAN

I am a Rotarian because Rotary's values are my values. Attendance at Rotary meetings and participation in Rotary projects remind me of the type of person I want to be – involved in improving my community, in promoting high ethical standards in my profession and in helping to improve living standards in disadvantaged parts of the world.

**PDG David C Williams
Rotary Club of Wilmington
Rotary District 5280 USA**

GUEST SPEAKERS

Michael Herden & Geoff Pitkin from the Billabong Club.

Michael Herden is the Chef at the Billabong Club and prepares lunches every day for the members. The Billabong Club is a transitional employment area assisting members back into the workforce. This is an international program based on members coming to the Club house to work. Areas covered are: Financial – Clerical – Kitchen – Gardening. Billabong has some 300 members in total with 25 / 30 attending daily and overall others must attend at least once every three months.

Billabong began in 1998 and over the past five years has doubled in numbers and this has also increased markedly over the past year. Fund raising covers half the cost of a staff member – there are five staff only to supervise everything. The staff work beside members to help both short and long term social activities – used to average about three social activities a month – now up to five a month and increasing. These are aimed at re-socialising members and assisting them back into the community. Billabong liaises closely with Dean House.

Geoff Pitkin has a daily routine of driving members to appointments which has proved very beneficial for him. He assists with the Newsletter and does lawn mowing for clients of Billabong which he is paid for and that is giving him a sense of pride as he is actually earning.

Michael noted that members are involved at Billabong for some 6 – 9 months – if outside work is found, the employer pays that person direct. There is no subsidy supplied by government so all assist with fund raising. Toyota has three members doing detailing, others do lawn mowing, window washing. We guarantee that someone will turn up – sometimes it is a staff member but we do not let the employer down.

Some of the members are now doing TAFE courses or Community College to gain or re-fresh skills and we offer in house training as well. We ran a Quit for Life program – we had 10 smokers now 4 are non-smokers and 3 have reduced their smoking. Geoff is a good example – he stopped smoking in March 2008. What has been interesting is that the smokers who actually stopped also appear to have reduced their medication by at least half. Billabong is having the best success rate anywhere.

Without the Club house, members would be totally lost which would cause a much worse situation for them. Billabong helps them build and re-build friendships, assists in getting them back into the community. Whilst at Billabong they are able to work in finance, the kitchen area, clerical. Their lunches cost \$3.00 per day.

Q Your qualifications?

A Qualified Chef, Certificate IV in Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol training to assist in a better understanding of these people who have experienced, for them, major traumas.

Q How is funding raised?

A Funding from the Department of Health, John Muller with his entertainment / concerts and golf, fund raising constantly. If any member is interested to speak to Robyn Lane at Billabong and she will work out who would be appropriate for your field – she does help people re-integrate back into the community.

Introduced by Phil Penman – thanked by Tim Coates



Tim Coates thanks our guest speakers
from Billabong Club House
Michael Herden and Geoffrey Pitkin

CONGRATULATIONS TO SHELTERBOX

Forum's Alternative Rich List campaign recognizes society's true heroes; the people whose wealth is measured not in pounds and pennies but in the way they have enriched the lives of others through their actions.

On hearing he had topped the Rich List; Tom Henderson remained as pragmatic as ever: I always say life is about doing the most for the most. "To win the Alternative Rich List is a tremendous honour but it's an honour I share with the thousands of Shelterbox supporters and volunteers, not just in the UK, but around the globe. It's because of these people, the people who work tirelessly day in and day out, that Shelterbox has been able to respond to more than 90 disasters in close to 60 countries across the globe, providing hundreds of thousands of people who have lost everything with shelter, with warmth and with dignity."

<http://tvnz.co.nz/business-news/thousands-vote-alternative-rich-list-2972757>

Worth taking a few minutes to look at the Alternative Rich List

A little old man shuffled slowly into the ice cream parlour and pulled himself slowly, painfully up onto a stool.

After catching his breath he ordered a banana split. The waitress kindly asked "Crushed Nuts?" "No, he replied "Arthritis".

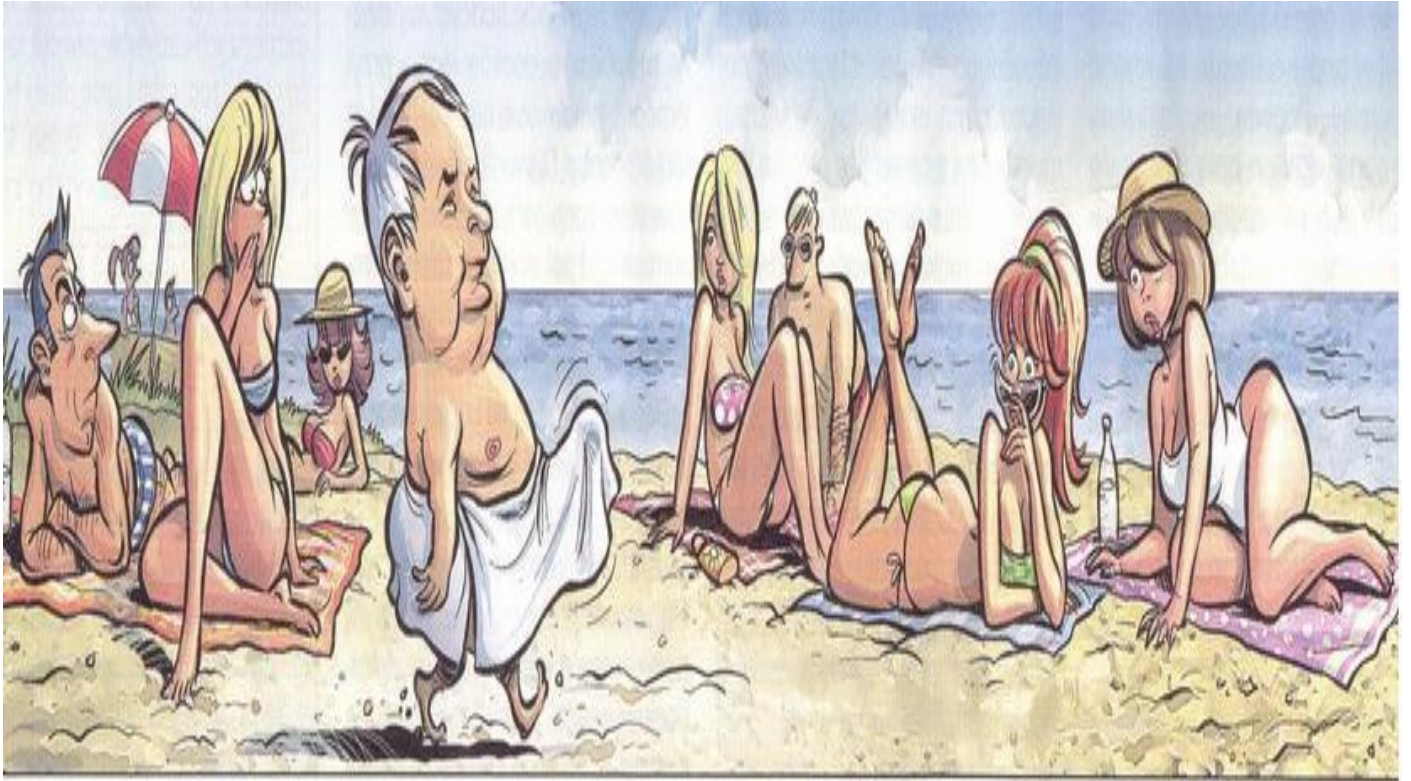
INAUGURAL PEDAL THE PEEL SUNDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER 2009











ARTIST'S CORNER

The idea for this section was to find out about “hidden” talents within our Club’s membership and we have had some wonderful insights to date –**this one is from Brian Thompson**. *A gentle reminder to Tim Coates for the Bulletin for next week....*

GARDEN GRASS SNAKES ALSO KNOWN AS GARTER SNAKES (THAMNOPHISSIRTALIS) CAN BE DANGEROUS

Yes! Grass snakes NOT Rattlesnakes and here’s why.....

A couple in Sweetwater, Texas had a lot of potted plants. During a recent cold spell, the wife was bringing a lot of them indoors to protect them from a possible freeze.

It turned out that a little green garden snake was hidden in one of the plants. When it warmed up, it slithered out and the wife saw it go under the sofa. She let out a very loud scream....

The husband (who was taking a shower) ran out into the living room naked to see what the problem was.

She told him there was a snake under the sofa. He got down on his hands and knees to look for it.

About that time the family dog came and cold-nosed him on the behind. He thought the snake had bitten him so he screamed and fell over on the floor. His wife thought he had had a heart attack so she covered him up and told him to lie still and called an ambulance.

The attendants rushed in, would not listen to his protests, loaded him on the stretcher and started carrying him out.

About that time the snake came out from under the sofa and the Emergency Medical Technician saw it and dropped his end of the stretcher. That’s when the man broke his leg and why he is still in hospital.

The wife still had the problem of the snake in the house so she called on a neighbour who volunteered to capture the snake.

He armed himself with a rolled-up newspaper and began poking under the couch. Soon he decided it was gone and told the woman who sat down on the sofa in relief. BUT while relaxing her hand dangled in between the cushions where she felt the snake wriggling around.

She screamed and fainted, the snake rushed back under the sofa. The neighbour seeing her lying there passed out, tried to use CPR to revive her.

The neighbour’s wife who had just returned from shopping at the grocery store, saw her husband’s mouth on the woman’s mouth and slammed her husband in the back of the head with a bag of canned goods, knocking him out and cutting his scalp to a point where he needed stitches.

The noise woke the woman from her dead faint and she saw her neighbour lying on the floor with his wife bending over him so she assumed that the snake had bitten him. She went to the kitchen and got a small bottle of whiskey and began pouring it down the man’s throat.

By now the police had arrived. They saw the unconscious man, smelled the whiskey and assumed that a drunken fight had occurred. They were about to arrest them all when the woman tried to explain how it all happened over a little green snake.

The police called an ambulance – they took away the neighbour and his sobbing wife.

Now the little snake again crawled out from under the sofa and one of the policemen drew his gun and fired at it. He missed and hit the leg of the end table. The table fell over, the lamp on it shattered and as the bulb broke, it started a fire in the drapes.

The other policeman tried to beat out the flames and fell through the window into the yard on top of the family dog, who, startled, jumped up and raced into the street where an oncoming car swerved to avoid it and smashed into the parked police car.

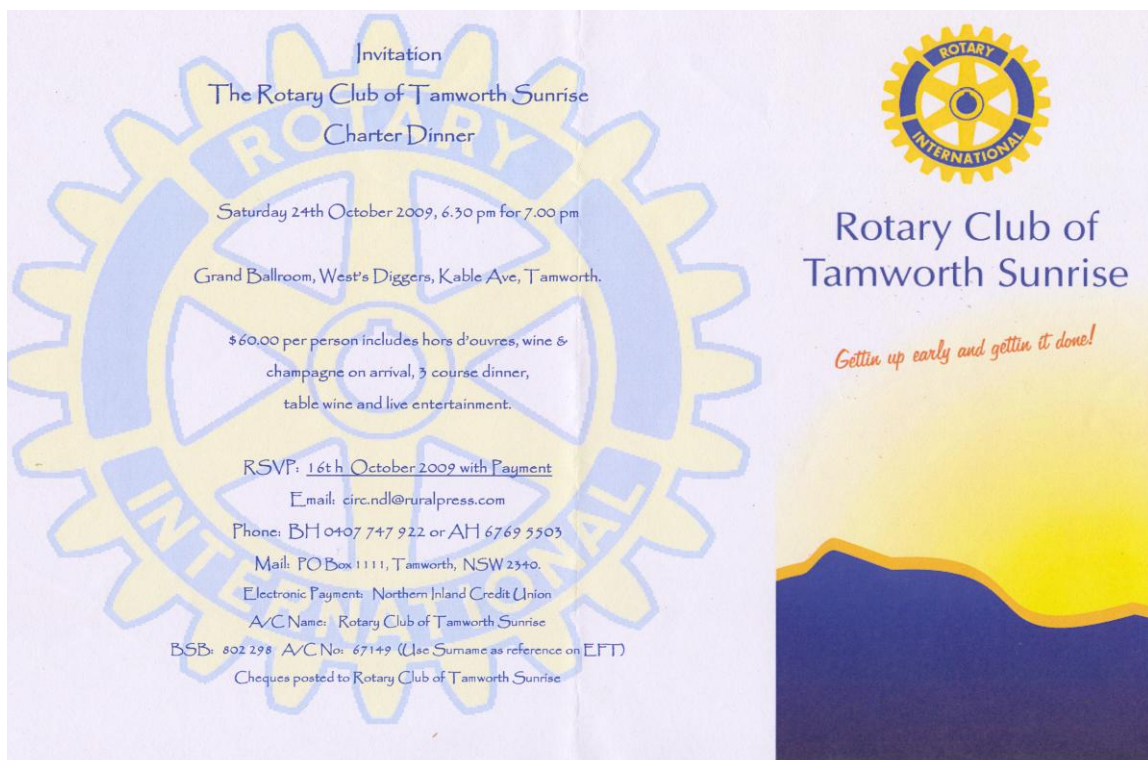
Meanwhile neighbours saw the burning drapes and called in the fire department. The firemen had started raising the fire ladder when they were half-way down the street. The rising ladder tore out the overhead wires, put out the power and disconnected the telephones in a 10 square city block (but they did get the house fire out).

Time passed!!! Both men were discharged from the hospital, the house was repaired, the dog came home, the police acquired a new car and all was right with their world.

A while later they were watching television and the weatherman announced a cold snap for that night. The wife asked the husband if he thought they should bring in their plants for the night.

And that is when he shot her.....

WOW! ONLY A LEGEL EAGLE COULD HAVE COME UP WITH THIS ONE.....



Club Website

President – **Brett White**
 Secretary – **Terry Robinson**
 Treasurer – **Michael Smith**
 Bulletin Editor – **Jane Bradford**
 Board of Directors

www.tamworthfirstlight.org.au

brett.white@freemans.com.au

trobenson@eversol.com.au

michael@mmsmail.com.au

jbmail@monelu.com

board@tamworthfirstlight.org.au

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009 - 2010

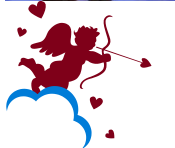
Club Service – Louise Matthews
Community Service – Brian Logan
International Service – Vicki Cooper
Vocational Service – John Worldon
Youth Centre – Annette Arthur

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Inductions



Birthdays

30.09 – Vicki Cooper
 05.10 – Campbell McIntosh
 06.10 – John Treloar



Partners Birthdays

Nil

Anniversaries

06.10 – Barry & Judy Biffen – 30 years
 06.10 – John & Jill Toulmin – 30 years



Inductions

Nil



Vocational Profile

Terry Robinson

Attendance

94%

Make Ups

Pedal the Peel – quite a number

Visitors Rotarians

None

Visitors

None

Heads & Tails

Tim Coates

Raffle

Barry Biffen

PRESIDENT ASSIST

To ensure members who are rostered for the duties of, Meeter and Greeter, Door, Visitor Assist, Welcome to our Members & Guests, Introduction of the Guest Speaker(s) and Vote of Thanks are present and if they are not to find a replacement and ensure those people's names are updated on the President's Running Sheet. Select the Table Order (after the head table).

Need to be in attendance by 6.30 am

DOOR TEAM

To record the attendance of our members and guests, collect meeting dues, and if possible balance the cash float i.e. monies paid = money received.

Need to be in attendance at 6.30 am

MEETER & GREETER

To meet & greet our members & welcome guests to our Club at the top of the stairs and to hand name badges to members. Also ensure any guests of members or visiting Rotarians are introduced to the Visitor Assist to ensure they are made feel welcome.

Need to be in attendance at 6.30 am

VISITOR ASSIST

To ensure any visitors to the Club are felt welcome by introducing yourself to them and other members and guests of our Club. To also include them in fellowship before and if necessary make sure they are included with several members for breakfast and are not left on their own.

Need to be in attendance from 6.30 am

WELCOME

To publicly welcome our Members & Guests (following the introduction) to our meeting when called upon by the President or his/her substitute.

Need to be in attendance by 6.50 am (or earlier)

INTRODUCTION

To make yourself known to our Guest Speaker/s, assist them to the head table and sit with them. During breakfast find out some information about the guest speaker which will assist you in your introduction.

VOTE OF THANKS

To move a vote of thanks to our guest speaker, and present a little thank you gift (ensure you have it before the meeting commences and take notes during their presentation to ensure your thank you is informed).

CORPORALS

To assist the Sergeant by putting out all Club Property and putting away at the conclusion of the meeting. Need to be in attendance by 6:30 am.

CORPORAL ASSIST

To assist the Sergeant, by putting away all Club Property at the conclusion of the meeting if the Corporals are unable to do so.

MEETING ROSTER

- When rostered on and you can't make it – **PLEASE** find another member to fill in for you
-
- Make sure that you let both the President and President Assist know before the start of the meeting
- If the above not organised the **Sergeant will love you**
- The starting time for the **DOOR team and MEETER & GREETER IS 6:30 AM**

- **Leave of Absence** - If members are going to be away for an extended period (holidays etc) please remember that a notification (letter) be sent to the Club Secretary noting date of departure and date of return and requesting "Leave of Absence" from the Club.
- **If you know you are going to be away for an extended period (holidays etc)** – **PLEASE** advice **Bruce Hemmett** by email at bruce.013@decorama.com.au
- **Please give at least TWO week's notice so the roster can be amended**
- **PLEASE** advice **Terry Burgess** – Attendance Officer by email at ssegrub@westnet.com.au

	30 September 2009	7 October 2009
Guest Speaker	David Woodward – Tourism Tamworth	
Meeter & Greeter	Laurence Hearne	Max May
Door Team	Ian Howle & Mark O'Connor	Barry Biffen & Greg Birtles
Welcome	Carmen Campbell	Michael O'Connor
President Assist	Peter Bell	Max Cathcart
Visitor Assist	Simon Chamberlain	Maureen Thornton
Corporal Assist	John Glynn	Bruce Hemmett
Introduction	Neil Lyon	David Baddams
Vote of Thanks	Bill Moss	Dennis Johnson

CORPORALS FOR COMING MONTHS

September John Glynn and Peter Hyde
October Phil Heffernan and Graham Dooley
November Laurence Hearne and Barry Biffin
December Bill Moss and David Baddams

<p>UNCLEAR THINKING AND WRITING (USA WELFARE DEPARTMENT)</p>

<p>Mrs Jones has had no clothes for a year and has been visited regularly by the preacher</p>
